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AUGUST MACHINE TOOL ORDERS UP 33.2%

Led by a surge in export orders for metal cutting machine tools, total machine tool orders rose to \$339.55 million in August, up 33.2% from July. According to figures released today by NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology, year-to-date total orders reached \$2,405.00 million, 86.5% above the figure for the same period last year. Compared to August 1987, August 1988 orders are up 139.1%.

August 1988 metal cutting machine tool orders showed a monthly rise of 39.8%, reaching \$261.50 million, while orders for metal forming equipment rose 14.9%, to \$78.05 million. Year-to-date metal cutting machine tool orders stood at \$1,791.25 million, 107.4% above 1987, and metal forming orders reached \$613.75 million, up 44.1%. Comparing August 1988 to August 1987, metal cutting orders rose 171.4% and metal forming orders rose 71.0%.

James A. Gray, NMTBA president, said, "The rise in orders for the month of August is welcome news as we return from our International Manufacturing Technology Show, IMTS-88, in Chicago. It is especially gratifying since August is often a slow-month for our industry. The rise in orders reflects an optimism about American manufacturing that was very much in evidence at IMTS. Attendance was up, topping out at 106,109, and visitors were there to buy."

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He added, "There is a growing belief in the future of the U.S. manufacturing industries. We've heard a lot lately from pessimists claiming Americans simply could not compete with overseas producers. Now facts, not just words, are proving them wrong."

Total machine tool shipments for August 1988 fell to \$153.85 million, down 18.0% from July. Compared to August a year ago, total shipments were off 2.9%, while year-to-date shipments were down 2.6%.

From July to August 1988, metal cutting machine tool shipments fell 21.8% to \$105.40 million, while metal forming shipments fell 8.6%, to \$48.45 million. Comparing August 1988 to August 1987, shipments of metal cutting equipment fell 10.9% while metal forming shipments rose 21.0%. Year-to-date figures for 1988 show metal cutting machine tool shipments down 14.2% to \$897.30 million and metal forming shipments up 27.8%, standing at \$511.90 million.

The machine tool order backlog for August 1988 stood at \$1,995.30 million, up from July's \$1,809.60 million.

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COMPARISON CHART

NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS (Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
AUG 1988	179.30	82.20	261.50	73.55	4.50	78.05	252.85	86.70	339.55
JUL 1988	167.55	19.45	187.00	53.80	14.15	67.95	221.35	33.60	254.95
% CHANGE									
AUG 1988:JUL 1988	+7.0	+322.6	+39.8	+36.7	-68.2	+14.9	+14.2	+158.0	+33.2
AUG 1987	90.25	6.10	96.35	36.60	9.05	45.65	126.85	15.15	142.00
% CHANGE									
AUG 1988:AUG 1987	+98.7	+1,247.5	+171.4	+101.0	-50.3	+71.0	+99.3	+472.3	+139.1
YEAR TO DATE 1988	1,507.45	283.80	1,791.25	531.30	82.45	613.75	2,038.75	366.25	2,405.00
YEAR TO DATE 1987	770.00	93.85	863.85	345.15	80.85	426.00	1,115.15	174.70	1,289.85
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	+95.8	+202.4	+107.4	+53.9	+2.0	+44.1	+82.8	+109.6	+86.5

SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS (Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
AUG 1988	93.00	12.40	105.40	40.65	7.80	48.45	133.65	20.20	153.85
JUL 1988	126.15	8.55	134.70	43.75	9.25	53.00	169.90	17.80	187.70
% CHANGE									
AUG 1988:JUL 1988	-26.3	+45.0	-21.8	-7.1	-15.7	-8.6	-21.3	+13.5	-18.0
AUG 1987	99.85	18.50	118.35	39.60	6.45	46.05	133.45	24.95	158.40
% CHANGE									
AUG 1988:AUG 1987	-6.9	-33.0	-10.9	+21.0	+20.9	+21.0	+0.1	-19.0	-2.9
YEAR TO DATE 1988	800.15	97.15	897.30	436.65	75.25	511.90	1,236.80	172.40	1,409.20
YEAR TO DATE 1987	935.15	111.25	1,046.40	344.20	56.50	400.70	1,279.35	167.75	1,447.10
% CHANGE									
1988 : 1987	-14.4	-12.7	-14.2	+26.9	+33.2	+27.8	-3.3	+2.8	-2.6

Source: NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS			Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$1,830.50	\$ 288.30	\$2,118.80	\$ 999.50	\$2,036.75	\$ 286.90	\$2,323.65
1988							
JAN	\$ 266.05	\$ 31.45	\$ 297.50	\$1,153.65	\$ 125.65	\$ 17.70	\$ 143.35
FEB	\$ 258.85	\$ 39.20	\$ 298.05	\$1,285.25	\$ 145.10	\$ 21.35	\$ 166.45
MAR	\$ 222.05	\$ 32.40	\$ 254.45	\$1,333.00	\$ 185.75	\$ 20.95	\$ 206.70
APR	\$ 193.45	\$ 59.55	\$ 253.00	\$1,428.60	\$ 133.90	\$ 23.50	\$ 157.40
MAY	\$ 278.90	\$ 45.80	\$ 324.70	\$1,573.60	\$ 157.60	\$ 22.10	\$ 179.70
JUN	\$ 345.25	\$ 37.55	\$ 382.80	\$1,742.35	\$ 185.25	\$ 28.80	\$ 214.05
JUL	\$ 221.35	\$ 33.60	\$ 254.95	\$1,809.60	\$ 169.90	\$ 17.80	\$ 187.70
AUG (P)	\$ 252.85	\$ 86.70	\$ 339.55	\$1,995.30	\$ 133.65	\$ 20.20	\$ 153.85
8 MONTHS	\$2,038.75	\$ 366.25	\$2,405.00		\$1,236.80	\$ 172.40	\$1,409.20

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS				CANCELLATIONS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$1,949.10	\$ 303.40	\$2,252.50		\$ 118.60	\$ 15.10	\$ 133.70
1988							
JAN	\$ 268.95	\$ 32.30	\$ 301.25		\$ 2.90	\$.85	\$ 3.75
FEB	\$ 265.15	\$ 39.35	\$ 304.50		\$ 6.30	\$.15	\$ 6.45
MAR	\$ 227.55	\$ 33.10	\$ 260.65		\$ 5.50	\$.70	\$ 6.20
APR	\$ 208.15	\$ 62.00	\$ 270.15		\$ 14.70	\$ 2.45	\$ 17.15
MAY	\$ 287.20	\$ 46.10	\$ 333.30		\$ 8.30	\$.30	\$ 8.60
JUN	\$ 352.35	\$ 38.95	\$ 391.30		\$ 7.10	\$ 1.40	\$ 8.50
JUL	\$ 227.60	\$ 34.10	\$ 261.70		\$ 6.25	\$.50	\$ 6.75
AUG (P)	\$ 262.10	\$ 88.05	\$ 350.15		\$ 9.25	\$ 1.35	\$ 10.60
8 MONTHS	\$2,093.05	\$ 373.95	\$2,467.00		\$ 60.30	\$ 7.70	\$ 68.00

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS			Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$1,294.45	\$ 157.00	\$1,451.45	\$- 672.20	\$1,498.85	\$ 177.65	\$1,676.50
1988							
JAN	\$ 205.75	\$ 18.20	\$ 223.95	\$ 824.95	\$ 61.60	\$ 9.60	\$ 71.20
FEB	\$ 217.95	\$ 32.45	\$ 250.40	\$ 966.45	\$ 97.00	\$ 11.90	\$ 108.90
MAR	\$ 174.15	\$ 17.75	\$ 191.90	\$1,020.60	\$ 123.95	\$ 13.80	\$ 137.75
APR	\$ 146.45	\$ 48.85	\$ 195.30	\$1,120.60	\$ 82.20	\$ 13.10	\$ 95.30
MAY	\$ 205.65	\$ 37.20	\$ 242.85	\$1,252.20	\$ 100.25	\$ 11.00	\$ 111.25
JUN	\$ 210.65	\$ 27.70	\$ 238.35	\$1,357.75	\$ 116.00	\$ 16.80	\$ 132.80
JUL	\$ 167.55	\$ 19.45	\$ 187.00	\$1,410.05	\$ 126.15	\$ 8.55	\$ 134.70
AUG (P)	\$ 179.30	\$ 82.20	\$ 261.50	\$1,566.15	\$ 93.00	\$ 12.40	\$ 105.40
8 MONTHS	\$1,507.45	\$ 283.80	\$1,791.25		\$ 800.15	\$ 97.15	\$ 897.30

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS				CANCELLATIONS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$1,365.85	\$ 167.35	\$1,533.20		\$ 71.40	\$ 10.35	\$ 81.75
1988							
JAN	\$ 207.35	\$ 18.80	\$ 226.15		\$ 1.60	\$.60	\$ 2.20
FEB	\$ 221.05	\$ 32.55	\$ 253.60		\$ 3.10	\$.10	\$ 3.20
MAR	\$ 178.10	\$ 17.95	\$ 196.05		\$ 3.95	\$.20	\$ 4.15
APR	\$ 150.30	\$ 50.50	\$ 200.80		\$ 3.85	\$ 1.65	\$ 5.50
MAY	\$ 210.40	\$ 37.45	\$ 247.85		\$ 4.75	\$.25	\$ 5.00
JUN	\$ 216.85	\$ 29.00	\$ 245.85		\$ 6.20	\$ 1.30	\$ 7.50
JUL	\$ 172.40	\$ 19.70	\$ 192.10		\$ 4.85	\$.25	\$ 5.10
AUG (P)	\$ 186.20	\$ 83.15	\$ 269.35		\$ 6.90	\$.95	\$ 7.85
8 MONTHS	\$1,542.65	\$ 289.10	\$1,831.75		\$ 35.20	\$ 5.30	\$ 40.50

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the NMTBA - The Association for Manufacturing Technology. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS			Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$ 536.05	\$ 131.30	\$ 667.35	\$ 327.30	\$ 537.90	\$ 109.25	\$ 647.15
1988							
JAN	\$ 60.30	\$ 13.25	\$ 73.55	\$ 328.70	\$ 64.05	\$ 8.10	\$ 72.15
FEB	\$ 40.90	\$ 6.75	\$ 47.65	\$ 318.80	\$ 48.10	\$ 9.45	\$ 57.55
MAR	\$ 47.90	\$ 14.65	\$ 62.55	\$ 312.40	\$ 61.80	\$ 7.15	\$ 68.95
APR	\$ 47.00	\$ 10.70	\$ 57.70	\$ 308.00	\$ 51.70	\$ 10.40	\$ 62.10
MAY	\$ 73.25	\$ 8.60	\$ 81.85	\$ 321.40	\$ 57.35	\$ 11.10	\$ 68.45
JUN	\$ 134.60	\$ 9.85	\$ 144.45	\$ 384.60	\$ 69.25	\$ 12.00	\$ 81.25
JUL	\$ 53.80	\$ 14.15	\$ 67.95	\$ 399.55	\$ 43.75	\$ 9.25	\$ 53.00
AUG (P)	\$ 73.55	\$ 4.50	\$ 78.05	\$ 429.15	\$ 40.65	\$ 7.80	\$ 48.45
8 MONTHS	\$ 531.30	\$ 82.45	\$ 613.75		\$ 436.65	\$ 75.25	\$ 511.90

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS				CANCELLATIONS		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total		Domestic	Foreign	Total
1987	\$ 583.25	\$ 136.05	\$ 719.30		\$ 47.20	\$ 4.75	\$ 51.95
1988							
JAN	\$ 61.60	\$ 13.50	\$ 75.10		\$ 1.30	\$.25	\$ 1.55
FEB	\$ 44.10	\$ 6.80	\$ 50.90		\$ 3.20	\$.05	\$ 3.25
MAR	\$ 49.45	\$ 15.15	\$ 64.60		\$ 1.55	\$.50	\$ 2.05
APR	\$ 57.85	\$ 11.50	\$ 69.35		\$ 10.85	\$.80	\$ 11.65
MAY	\$ 76.80	\$ 8.65	\$ 85.45		\$ 3.55	\$.05	\$ 3.60
JUN	\$ 135.50	\$ 9.95	\$ 145.45		\$.90	\$.10	\$ 1.00
JUL	\$ 55.20	\$ 14.40	\$ 69.60		\$ 1.40	\$.25	\$ 1.65
AUG (P)	\$ 75.90	\$ 4.90	\$ 80.80		\$ 2.35	\$.40	\$ 2.75
8 MONTHS	\$ 556.40	\$ 84.85	\$ 641.25		\$ 25.10	\$ 2.40	\$ 27.50

P - Preliminary

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